

# Meeting Lincoln


Original letters describing  
encounters with the 16th President  
of the United States

Surnames beginning with

## Si-Sp

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Siddons, Lottie K.

Independence Hall

Phila., Pa.

5616 Windsor Avenue

(raise flag,  
and funeral)

May 26, 1932.

Mr. Howard K. Terry:-

Dear Sir,

Perhaps my letter will not be as interesting as the others you have, but I will do my best.

I was only a child during the Civil War. I saw Abraham Lincoln raise the flag on Independence Hall.

I also saw him lying in state at Independence Hall after he was shot.

I remember well when he was shot.

I remember also when Mrs. Suratt and others were hanged on account of the assassination.

I remember when the troops going south were attacked in Baltimore.

That also caused great excitement.

I lived on Washington Avenue during the war. The troops were brought in at Washington Street Wharf and marched to Bond and Washington Avenue and there took the train for the south. I saw these troops going to the war.

I saw the prisoners brought up from the south, and when they refused to pass under the flag the Union troops drew their bayonets and forced them to pass under.



I remember the surrender of Lee  
to General Grant and saw General  
Grant after the war closed.

I was 14 years old when President  
Lincoln was shot.

In August 1863 I and some other  
little girls had a fair to aid the sick  
and wounded soldiers. We made  
quite a good bit of money and gave  
it to the Cooper's Refreshment Saloon  
where the soldiers were fed as they came  
in from other cities. I still have one  
of the fair tickets in my possession.

I trust I have given you some infor-  
mation. Four years after the close of the  
War I became a school teacher in 1869.  
I taught continuously until 1921 when  
I was obliged to retire on account of  
age. I am now in my eighties and  
never had a spell of illness that I can  
remember in all my life.

Trusting that I have not tired you  
with this letter I am

Respectfully yours  
Lottie B. Siddons

5616 Windsor Ave.

Phila.

Pa.





Minneapolis, Minn.  
Minn. Soldiers Home

May 1. 1931.

Dear Mr. Terry.

I am Mr. Silverthorn's daughter, and he has asked me to write to you, in reply to your letter, asking what he knew of Abraham Lincoln, or what is, when he saw him.

He saw him, only once, that was at Harper's Ferry Va, about the middle of Oct. 1862, He was there inspecting the Army of the Potomac, riding horse-back and in company with Gen. Geo. B. McClean. Lincoln was riding a dark bay horse and wearing his tall silk hat.

We were lying in camp, it was shortly after the battle of Antietam, He wasn't close enough to him, to hear what he said - however, he did not make a speech etc. He was there just

a short time. <sup>we</sup>  
I'm sorry ~~there~~ are not able  
to give you more of a story.  
We think it might be fine if  
you do try and get this date  
you asked my father, what  
regiment he was in. He was  
in, Co. D. 145<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania  
Volunteers. Enlisted the 11<sup>th</sup> day  
of August 1862 - left Erie Pa. (his  
home) Sept. 11 - 1862 - and hurried  
into the Battle of Antietam  
Sept. 17 - 1862 - just 6 days after ~~he~~  
left home. He was wounded at  
the battle of Gettysburg July 2 - '63  
loaded on to a freight-car and  
taken to Philadelphia, to a  
hospital. It was the Summit  
House, previously to the war it  
was a hotel.

Hoping this will be of some  
information to you.

Yours Very Truly,

Lana P. Silverthorn.

A. C. Silverthorn.

I served in the union army in  
the 51<sup>st</sup> Ohio vol. Infantry. Co "C" from  
1863 to the end of the war. I had an  
elder brother Isaac Simmers who had  
enlisted in the same regiment Co. "A."  
Early in 1861. He contracted Typhoid  
Pneumonia in Feb. 1862 and died in  
camp <sup>Wickliffe</sup> and was buried in Larn. now.  
Harding County, Ky. Near the place  
where A. Lincoln was born.

David W. Simmers.



Daniel W. Summers

December 3, will be 86 years of age.

Carpenter & 51st Ohio

New Philadelphia Ohio cemetery

now living at 302 W. Williams St.

Fort Washington, Ohio

" just like old women who have a great pig,  
pot and molasses cook in it."

81 Said a few words  
- failed to mention commander of Perry's victory in battle



\* I saw Lincoln \*

*copy*

Full Name Daniel W. Simmers  
 Present Address 302 W. Williams St. Ft. Wayne, Ind  
 Date of Birth Year 1846 Month Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> Day Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Place of Birth Inscarawas County, Ohio  
 Where You Saw Lincoln at Port Washington, Ohio.  
 When You Saw Lincoln When he was on his way to

*copy*

Remarks: Washington to take his seat for  
his first term, March 4<sup>th</sup> 1861. He passed  
through Port Washington Ohio on the Pan-  
handle Rail Road. When Mr. Lincoln  
came out on the platform of the car  
to greet the small crowd, he remarked  
that he was not feeling very well and  
that his head felt empty, like the  
old woman who had a great big pot and nothing

*to come out*





I served in the Union army in  
the 51<sup>st</sup> Ohio vol. Infantry Co "C" from  
1863 to the end of the war. I had an  
elder brother Isaac Simmons who had  
enlisted in the same regiment Co "A"  
early in 1861. He contracted Typhoid  
Pneumonia in Feb. 1862 and died in  
camp <sup>Wickliffe</sup> and was buried in Larn - now  
Harding County, Ky. Near the place  
where A. Lincoln was born.

Daniel W. Simmons.



Daniel W. Summers

December 3, will be 86 years of age

Carpenter R. 51st Ohio

New Philadelphia Ohio

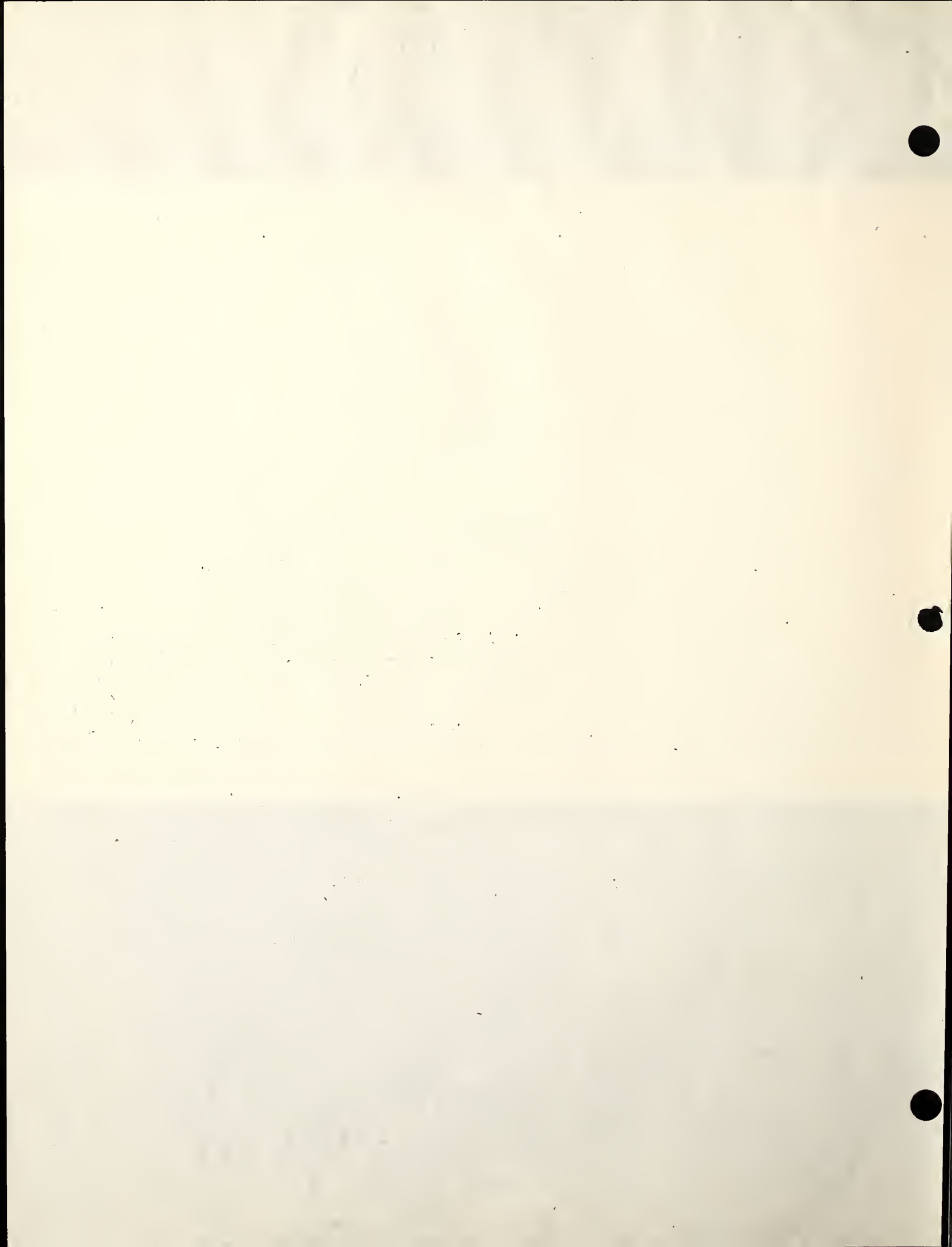
now lives at 302 W. Williams St.

---

Fort Washington, Ohio

" just like old women who have a great big  
pot and will be cook in it."

21 Said a few words  
failed to remember of Perry Victor in Canada



Simon, Hannah  
Chicago March 7<sup>th</sup> 32

Chicago, Ill.

Wm Howard W Terry

Dear Sir

I intended to answer your letter  
at once but I am not well  
I am over 87 years and do not feel  
some days so I got up and am going  
to write what I know of Honest Abe  
Lincoln I was on Elans St and a  
very thin and tall Man had a stove  
pipe hat on Now they call it a Silk Hat  
had an umbrella Dashed Linen dusters on  
and the wind was strong everyone that  
was there turned around and watched  
him none knew that a few days after  
he was nominated for President I have  
a Postal Card on which is the best figure  
of Abe Lincoln it states a terrible way  
to live who knows it states do not worry  
Eat three square meals a day say your  
prayers be courteous to your creditors  
Keep your digestion good exercise go to work

And go every way be there other things  
that your mind cure requires to make you  
Happy. but my friend there I reckon will  
give you a good lift.

I think he gave good advice I hope that  
you will be able to recollect this I have in  
the past have written to Mr H Woodruff  
who has charge of the Wake of the News also  
two ladies have written to me stating when  
the weather is warmer they want to call on me  
and talk about eastern Chicago we came  
to Chicago in 1855 when it was a mud  
city but it has given a new life in cleaner  
My thoughts are that if we did not  
have this depression that things would be  
better all over the world

Sincerely yours

Hannah Dimock

Oct. 8-32 DANA  
Illinois  
La Salle Co

Mr. Warren

I live at the above  
address. 94 years old  
I saw Lincoln at  
Urbana Illinois in  
a debate with Douglas  
1858.

Mrs Lovcetta Foss Simpkins

(R.L. Simpkins)





If you have not  
 found the school  
 However, it may  
 be that I can help  
 you out. I saw  
 Director in 1964  
 wait for him the  
 fall. Last time again  
 in 51' at the ground  
 where a bullet hole  
 the life log of the  
 structure are inch  
 one side of his wall  
 here.

J. E. Skinner  
 Director

85-2-1-1



7000. North Paulina St L.-D. Debates

Chicago Illinois June 4<sup>th</sup> 1929

Mr - Howard K - Terry - Dear Sir

In answer to your  
 of May 22. will say. I was Born Jan 9<sup>th</sup> 1844  
 at Paris Illinois served in the Civil War went  
 with Gen Sherman to the sea. then to Washington  
 at the Grand Review at the close of the war -  
 Played a game of Marbles with Lincoln at  
 Paris Sept 1853. Heard one of the Debates with  
 Douglas - for Seneter at Charleston Illinois in  
 1858. Mr. Lincoln - Practiced Law at Paris for  
 seven years from 1847. Till 1854. in 1823 -  
 The Edgar - County Historical Society put out  
 a Pamphlet containing a short article  
 written by 18 - or 20 People who knew him  
 when he came to Paris to attend Court  
 in that Pamphlet is my Marble Game -  
 of all the People who wrote for that Book -  
 just two are living a Mrs Sumner and  
 my self - that Pamphlet contains more  
 about Lincoln than I could write in  
 a weeks - time the Historical Society (over

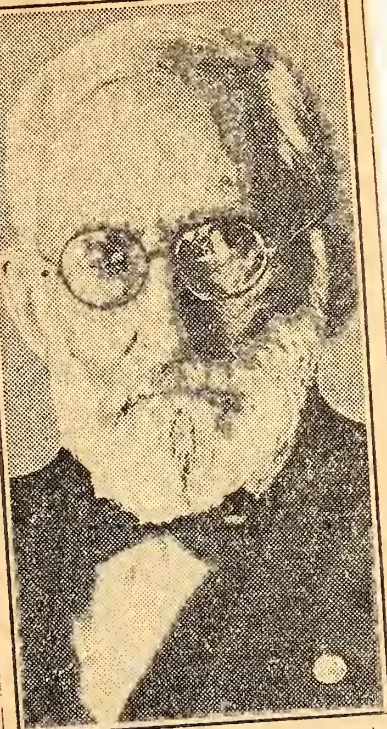
fixed the Price at \$1<sup>00</sup> if you desired  
a copy. just Enclose a \$1<sup>00</sup> in a letter  
and I will be pleased to mail one to  
you. I know it will be interesting to  
you and to all that may see it. if you  
send for it give me your address -  
in type so that I'll make no mistake  
hoping that this will be of interest  
to you.

Yours-Respt.

W. C. Blomons -

7000 North Pauline St  
Chicago Illinois

## Remembers Lincoln



P. & A.

### WILLIAM C. SLEMMONS

Eighty - six - year - old Civil War veteran, now living in Chicago, as a boy in Paris, Ill., in 1853, was playing marbles in the street when Lincoln, then a man of 44, stopped, borrowed some marbles and played a game with Slemmons and his chums, after which he continued his way to the courthouse, where he was one of attorneys in a case.

1  
2  
3



Sloat, David

Washington

Wrightsville, Pa.

Mr H. A. Ferry July 17, 1931

Soldier

Dear Sir your letter of July 14  
received, and glad you  
are interested in who saw met.  
or heard or knew Lincoln

I have been interested for  
parties in California the  
President Bro William <sup>Wharf</sup>  
also Arthur + Smith  
executive Secretary.

I belong to 200 reg - Penns vol -  
Co. G. 25 day of Mar - 1865  
25 April. had hard fight  
Petersburg, Va. after the battle  
my bro was wounded they made  
a field hospital I got permit  
from my Captain to see my  
bro - Abraham Lincoln shook  
hands with my bro + me +  
greeted us with Gods Love  
also when I was on duty saw  
Lincoln kneel + pray with a

a Confederate Soldier.  
Mother Smith of Hanover  
205 York St. Hanover Pa Saw Lincoln  
he delivered Gettysburg address  
she talked to him he kissed  
her hand.

I am David Sloat Sr  
31<sup>st</sup> Walnut St  
Wrightsville  
Pa



Michigan Soldiers Home  
Grand Rapids Mich

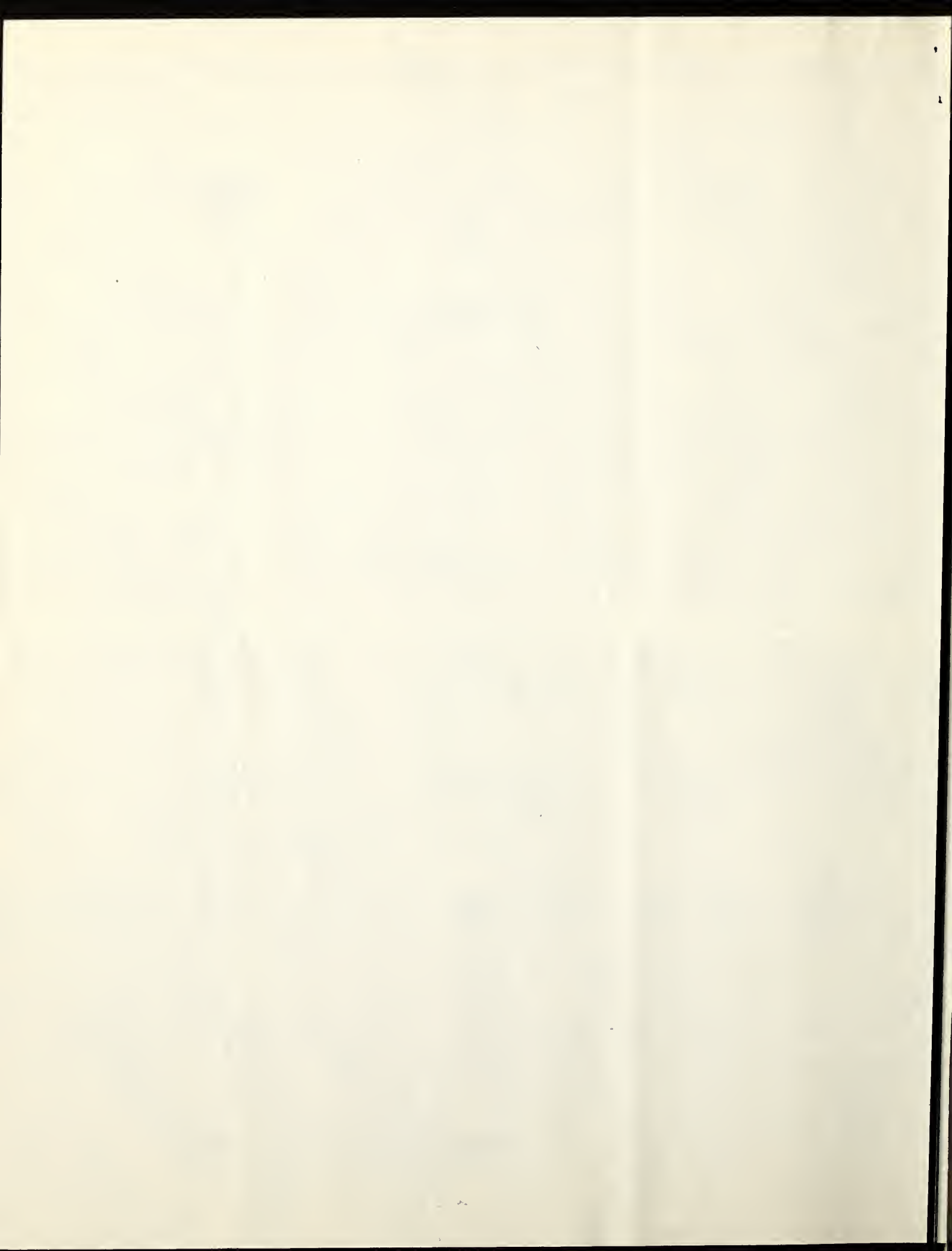
April 14<sup>th</sup> 31  
Mr Howard K Terry

Dear Sir,

Your letter at hand. I will  
gladly write you all I know of  
Abraham Lincoln. but, it is a good  
many years. since I seen him -  
but I remember just how he  
looked at that time. at. was  
during his first term and over  
4 years before he was assasinated  
and I was only a little more  
than 12 years old, as I was born  
Apr 1<sup>st</sup> 1849, and, in the latter  
part of July 1861, soon after the  
1<sup>st</sup> battle of Bull Run, I guess I got  
a little scared and, quite afterward  
the, Chaplin of the Regiment, the Rev-  
Francis, H. Cumming, of St. Marks Church  
Grand Rapids, took me from Alexandria  
Va, across to Washington end, Right 15



The White House, and Mr. Lincoln -  
took Mr. to the War Department, you  
can imagine how a boy of 12 years  
of age would feel walking with  
the President's Hand, gripping his -  
shoulder, and the more he talked to  
me about, how my mother would -  
feel, the more <sup>more</sup> sick I got -  
we wrote a pass - or secretary  
for me to give to the Provost,  
Marshall. When ever I showed  
and handed it to the Secy of War  
and he signed it by the President  
in Red Ink and signed his name  
Edward M. Stanton. set of War, I -  
had it until just a very few years  
ago; I can remember just how it read  
to the Provost Marshall now here. Kindly  
see that the Bureau (Alexander Smith.)  
is furnished with <sup>substance and transcription</sup>  
between the City of Washington D.C and  
Grand Rapids Mich.  
and oblige your humble  
A. Lincoln



among some of the things that President  
Lincoln said to me was that I might  
be in the war yet but he hoped not  
'but, I, was. The Regiment was  
Reorganized in 1864 and I was one  
of the first to join it and when  
word news was assested, I was  
in the mountains of East Texas where  
we captured two, or three Bands  
of Goveles. We went from there  
to Texas, where we was mustered  
out, May 25/1866 - and sent back to  
Detroit where we was Discharged  
I, didnt, tell you the President  
never left me until he seen me  
started up the town and I have  
never forgotten the kind advice he  
gave me and, when we got  
the news of his death, I couldnt  
keep the tears out of my eyes, though  
I, was a soldier at that time

Excuse all mistakes, in spelling  
& etc, as I am 82, now. Instead of  
12, yours truly Alexander Smith  
formerly Corporal Co D, 3rd Michigan Infantry



H. P. Smith  
Lewisburg, Ohio

Lewisburg, Ohio, Nov 7 1933

Lincoln Love,  
Ft Wayne. Ind

Gents

I am informed by some of my friends, that you are making an effort to get the names of persons living today, that saw Abraham Lincoln alive, if such is the case, I am one of those persons that you are seeking.

I was born Jan'y 18th 1856, and in my early life lived in Cincinnati O., in Feby 1861 the school that I attended was dismissed for the day, so that the children could see the President elect on his way to Washington. I saw him ~~embark~~ from the train, and enter a carriage, and then driven through the principal streets of the city, and I <sup>just</sup> see him <sup>as</sup> today when he doffed that silk hat returning, the greetings of the citizens, that crowded the streets. I am the only living person ~~alive~~ in my County, (Pike) that saw Lincoln alive. In 1861 when Lincoln issued his proclamation called for volunteers, to defend the Union my

H. T. Smith  
Lewisburg, Ohio

Lewisburg, Ohio, \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_

Father in June 1861, at the age of 51 yrs enlisted  
in 48 Reg. O. V. I. which was organized in Cin-  
cinn and served 3 yrs & 2 mos. and participated in a great  
many of the battles in East & W. Virginia, I had a  
brother 17 yrs of age who enlisted in 1863. in the  
106 Reg. O. V. I. organized in Cin-  
cinn, serving in the  
Army of Tennessee, both came home alive I hold  
my Father's discharge which he will send me before  
he dies. The 1st President I voted for was V. B.  
Israel 1872, and voted for every Republican candidate  
since, I voted in every Primary and Election since  
1872 never missed one, always taking an active  
interest in my County elections, Last year the  
Republican State Convention of Ohio, in recognition  
of my services in the interest of the Republican Party  
in time & money for all these years, nominated <sup>me</sup> ~~at~~  
of one of the Presidential Electors for Ohio, but unfor-  
tunately the state went Democratic and I did not  
serve. a great disappointment to me.

If this letter don't suit - throw it in the Waste Basket  
if it does and you want a snapshot of me, advise and  
I will send you one

Your Respect H. T. Smith



Company 8  
National Home, Wisconsin  
February 14, 1931

Mr. Howard K. Terry  
9528 Wisteria Street  
Bustleton  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

My dear Mr. Terry:

This is in reply to your letter of February 10.

I am happy to give you the little information I have regarding my personal contact with Abraham Lincoln. At the time Mr. Lincoln had his law office in Danville, Illinois, my father had a warehouse in Kenosha, Wisconsin and a farm about ten miles from Danville. I well remember the trip I took with my father to his farm and when he said, "Do you want to see the most unusual looking man in Danville?" he took me to Mr. Lincoln's office on no particular business, but just to look at him. I was only about eight years old at the time, but I shall never forget that tall, bony, rough looking man. When I reached home, I remember telling my mother that I had never seen such long feet as Mr. Lincoln's. I have always had the greatest respect for him and wish that the country had more men like him today.

I was in Company A, 2nd Cavalry. I am sorry I cannot give you more incidents but I had no contact with Mr. Lincoln during my service. The only time I remember seeing him was on the above occasion.

Sincerely yours,

*Michael Smith*

Michael Smith

MS.h.s



## HEARD LINCOLN'S FAMOUS ADDRESS

Woman Member of Chorus at  
Gettysburg is Speaker  
Before Club

Speaking in a low but perfectly audible voice, Mrs. M. O. Smith, 83 years old, of Hanover, Pa., Tuesday told the Kiwanis club that she believed she was the only survivor of the chorus that sang at Gettysburg on that historic occasion when President Lincoln delivered his famous oration, now known as the Gettysburg address.

"I was a girl of 15, and was invited to participate in the chorus, along with others selected from the various church choirs of Gettysburg," Mrs. Smith said. "We opened the program with a hymn, written especially for the occasion, and followed with a dirge, also specially composed.

"Mr. Everett was then called upon and he delivered a stirring address which lasted for an hour and 10 minutes. Everyone declared that it was a masterful effort and I remember that the applause was tremendous."

"Then," Mrs. Smith continued, "we sang another song, after which the president rose to speak. His talk consumed but seven minutes, and there was not a single hand clap as he sat down."

Mrs. Smith was the guest of Alex W. Laing at the club meeting. She is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John Laing.

On several occasions, Mrs. Smith said, she has been asked to take part in special ceremonies at Gettysburg. Last year, she said, she met President and Mrs. Hoover, and was photographed with the President. Once before, she met President and Mrs. Coolidge there.

"I also have the honor of shaking hands with President Lincoln and kissing him, of which I am very proud," she said. "He was a very large man with the largest hands I ever saw. When he shook hands with me I couldn't even see my own hand."

CHARLESTON (W VA) MAIL  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1931.

Smith, Mrs. M.O. Gettysburg Address Hanover, Pa.

Hanover, Pa.  
June 10<sup>th</sup> 1930.

Mr Howard K. Terry:-  
Dear Sir:- I am sending you clippings out of two of my town papers, in which are practically all of the facts I could give, you were I to write, and as my finger joints are very stiff from rheumatism, I thought these clippings might answer the purpose. I am 82 years old today.  
Respectfully Mrs M.O. Smith.



# LOVERS OF LINCOLN DEDICATE HOME AT HANOVER AS SHRINE

*gazette & weekly -  
yokepa*

Occasion Also Honors 83rd  
Birthday Of Mrs.

M. O. Smith

*6-11-1931*

## ADDRESS BY STOCK; CITIZENS PARADE

"We need more Lincolns today," said former Judge McClean Stock in dedicating the home of Mrs. M. O. Smith, 205 York street, Hanover, as the national shrine of the Abraham Lincoln Fellowship, last evening.

Judge Stock was the principal speaker at exercises sponsored by the Harold H. Bair post No. 14, the American Legion, of Hanover, which were attended by a throng estimated at 2,500 persons. The dedication of Mrs. Smith's home also marked her 83rd birthday, and the celebration was held as a tribute to the silver-haired lady, who, as a girl of 15, sat on the platform at Gettysburg when Abraham Lincoln made his immortal address, and was afterward kissed by the president.

### A Lover of Lincoln

Mrs. Smith is the honorary vice-president of the Fellowship, which is composed of those persons who knew, met, saw, or heard Lincoln, and which is designed to perpetuate his memory. In a few remarks, thanking the citizens of Hanover and other interested parties, for the honor bestowed upon her, Mrs. Smith announced that the latchstring of her home will always be out to lovers of Lincoln. Mrs. Smith is truly a remarkable woman. She has a reverence for Abraham Lincoln that amounts almost to a religion. The citizens of Hanover hold her in high esteem, and the outpouring of people last evening was a tangible evidence of this regard for the venerable lady.

### Inspired Lincoln

It was fitting that Judge Stock was the speaker on the occasion, for he is not only a former Hanoverian, but he is a close personal friend of Mrs. Smith, who knew him as a youth. The official dignity which attached to the office held by Mr. Stock is held lightly by Mrs. Smith, for she still calls the judge "Mac." And to Judge Stock, she is "Mother Smith."

The address of the distinguished barrister came straight from the heart and not from cold paper. His inspiring talk was brief, like Lincoln's. He told his audience that Lincoln was probably inspired by the

presence of the 15-year-old choir singer when he uttered his immortal words to an audience of war-weary persons. It was quite evident that Judge Stock himself was inspired by the presence on the platform of the same girl, now gracious and kindly woman of 83 years.

### Auspicious Occasion

"This is certainly an auspicious occasion," said Judge Stock. "Three score and eight years ago, an old man came to Gettysburg—old before his time. He was disturbed by the cares of his high office, oppressed by the burdens and worries of three long years of civil strife.

"He came to Gettysburg, care-worn as he was, to dedicate the national cemetery there, wondering how his speech was going to be accepted by the people, many of whom were criticizing him.

"There was another on that rostrum, a demure girl of fifteen years, who came as a member of a choir to sing for the honored visitor. I can well imagine that this sweet, clear soprano voice helped to hearten the weary president, and gave him courage to speak words which have become classic.

### Kiss Of Gratitude

"After the services at Gettysburg," continued Mr. Stock, "I can see the leaders of the day and the curious townfolk greeting Mr. Lincoln. But of all those present, he probably felt more affection for the little soprano choir singer, who had helped to ease his cares, than for all those other

personages, whose well-meant attention no doubt added to the great man's burden. I feel that the kiss he bestowed upon her was one of gratitude—a proper kiss and a kiss to remember and cherish.

"That same little girl, now grown mellow with the passing years, is seated on this platform tonight, and it is to honor her, not only for her presence on the platform at Gettysburg, but also for her deep reverence for the martyred president, that we are gathered here.

### Noble Purpose

"Out in California, a band of citizens have organized the Abraham Lincoln Fellowship. Its purpose is to perpetuate the memory of the great president. This is indeed a noble purpose.

"We are also honoring Lincoln today in other ways. The Lincoln highway typifies his hardships and struggles and the ruggedness of his character—the hardships of his early life and his struggle along the highway to success and the highest office in the land. The Lincoln Memorial at Washington is typical of the greatness of the man, a symbol of his idealism.

"Lincoln was a great man. He met the problems of the day—vexing problems, morally and civically, but he solved them with a simplicity that made him great. We need Lincolns today, who will meet the present-day problems with the same clear and simple viewpoint. Words we say can not add to or detract from the greatness of the man, for he now belongs to the ages.

"I wish to congratulate Mother Smith upon the dedication of her home as a Lincoln shrine and also upon her 83rd birthday anniversary and to express the hope that she may enjoy many more years to come."

### Legion Complimented

The American Legion was highly complimented for their active interest in the dedication and preparation for the event, by Mr. Stock. The creation of the shrine is of great significance, because shrines dedicated to such noble men are dedicated to the noble principles which the men stood for, declared the former judge. "By keeping the principle before the public, a shrine inspires better manhood and better citizenship," he said.

### Parade and Program

The dedicatory exercises opened with the playing of "America" by the Hanover Boys' band. Prayer was then offered by Rev. J. S. Tome, pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran church. Attorney Robert M. Laird, master of ceremonies for the occasion, read congratulatory messages directed by telegram to Mrs. Smith from prominent persons. Messages of congratulations were sent by five governors and one former governor. Judge Stock was introduced as the principal speaker. He delivered a brief but inspiring address which was well received by the crowd present. Prior to Mr. Stock's address, Mrs. Smith was introduced to the assembly and gave a brief address. The Knights of Pythias band played the national anthem and the benediction was pronounced by Rev. L. B. Hafer, pastor of the York Springs Lutheran church. After the ceremonies, hundreds of persons passed by the rostrum and clasped hands with Mother Smith.

The parade preceding the exercises at the Smith home formed on Park avenue opposite the Legion home and moved promptly at 7 o'clock. It was led by the committee of Legionnaires who arranged for the event: Ralph Fox, chairman; Herbert Jordan and Henry Bittinger. They were followed by the Knights of Pythias band. A car bearing Mrs. Smith and Rev. Tome followed. Then came members of the municipal council and school board. The Hanover Boys' band was followed by uniformed members of Eagle Fire company No. 2, and Hanover Fire company No. 1. Two pieces of apparatus from the Eagle company and one piece from the Hanover company added color to the affair. The drum and bugle corps of Harold H. Bair post No. 14, American Legion, and legionnaires formed the rear of the parade.

### Asks Blessing On Home

Calling for divine blessing on the home of Mrs. Smith, Rev. Tome, who is her pastor, opened the exercises with the following prayer:

"Almighty God and Father of all mercies and God of all comfort, ever night unto all them that call upon Thee in truth, sanctify and bless this house, we beseech Thee, that they who gather here may be enlightened and strengthened by Thy manifold gifts of grace. O Lord, Jesus Christ, Thou Great High Priest, grant unto us, Thy humble servants, a true spiritual faithfulness that we may offer within this shrine our thanksgiving for the leader to whom the house is dedicated. O Holy Spirit, dwell, we beseech Thee, in those who seek to unite their hearts in love and zeal for the progress of Thy Kingdom. May this shrine, we ask of Thee, be

pare Thy servants who can here, that when their earthly pilgrimage is ended, they may be received into the shrine not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, and behold Thy glory and adore and praise Thee, one God world without end. Amen."

**Remarks By Mother Smith**

Mrs. Smith's remarks were as follows:

"Past Commander Laird, Hon. McClean Stock, my pastor, Rev. Tome, and members of the American Legion, who arranged for this service:

"I welcome you, and all who are here assembled, on the occasion of the dedication of my home as a national shrine of the Abraham Lincoln Fellowship. This new organization was founded on Lincoln Day, 1931, the membership being confined only to those persons who saw, heard, met or knew Lincoln.

"And I am so proud of the honor which has come to me, as it was my good fortune and rare privilege to be one of the girls of Gettysburg who sang for the immortal Lincoln at the consecration of the National cemetery at Gettysburg on November 19, 1863—almost 68 years ago.

"It is also pleasing to me that the setting apart of my home as a Lincoln shrine falls on the 83d anniversary of my birth—what a wonderful birthday it has been.

"And what a fine tribute you, my fellow citizens, have paid to me on

this occasion. I want you all to accept my sincerest thanks for the interest you have shown by your presence here this evening, and to share with me this unusual honor.

"The selection of this Lincoln shrine in the east was made by the officers of the Lincoln Fellowship from the national headquarters, in Berkeley, Cal., and I consider it quite an honor and distinction. And may the spirit of the Great Emancipator, the lamented, martyred president, abide on all who find shelter within the now hallowed walls of this humble home.

"And that I may be true to the precepts of the Abraham Lincoln Fellowship, it is both a privilege and a pleasure to announce that the latchstring of this shrine will always be out to every lover of Lincoln."

**Greetings From Governors**

Among the messages of congratulation received by Mrs. Smith were the following:

"Charleston, W. Va.

"The Abraham Lincoln Fellowship, Mrs. M. O. Smith:

"As a tribute to the memory of President Lincoln, and in honor of Mrs. M. O. Smith, who sang in the choir and occupied the platform when Lincoln delivered his famous Gettysburg address, I extend heartiest congratulations to Mrs. Smith, whom I now personally, and to those others interested in the dedication of her home as the National Lincoln Shrine.

"WILLIAM G. CONLEY,  
"Governor of West Virginia."

"Sacramento, Cal.

"The Abraham Lincoln Fellowship.

"I send California's greetings and congratulations to the Abraham Lincoln Fellowship today, when the home of Mrs. M. O. Smith will be dedicated on her 83d birthday as the National Shrine of the Abraham Lincoln Fellowship, and I especially wish to congratulate 'Mother Smith,' who was on the platform at the delivery of the Gettysburg address, for announcing that 'the latch string will always be out to every lover of Lincoln and to just come in and make yourself at home.' My best wishes for the success of your dedication. Very sincerely,

"JAMES ROLPH, JR.,  
"Governor of California."

"Carson City, Nev.

"Mrs. M. O. Smith:

"Congratulations and good wishes from Nevada on the occasion of your 83rd birthday. The dedication of your home as the National Shrine of the Abraham Lincoln Fellowship is a wonderful tribute to one of the greatest of all Americans. You are indeed honored to have been permitted to personally know President Lincoln, and I trust that your home may indeed become a national Lincoln shrine.

F. S. BALZAR,  
"Governor of Nevada."

"Santa Fe, N. M.

"Mrs. M. O. Smith:

"May I not congratulate you on your very noble and patriotic enterprise in having your historic home dedicated to the memory of the immortal Lincoln, to be known as a national shrine. New Mexico extends to you affectionate greetings on your birthday, and may God's choicest blessings be yours.

"ARTHUR SELIGMAN,  
"Governor of New Mexico."

"Regret very much my inability to be present at the dedication of Mrs. M. O. Smith home, June 10. I congratulate your post upon its progressiveness, and Mrs. Smith upon attaining the age of eighty-three years. Will you convey my very best wishes to those who attend the dedication?

"GIFFORD PINCHOT."

**Haines Sends Felicitations**

The following telegram was received from Congressman Harry L. Haines, Red Lion:

"Mrs. M. O. Smith:

"Due to ill health I cannot attend dedicatory services at your home tonight and I regret this very much. I want, however, to congratulate you and wish for you many more happy years. The people of Hanover are to be congratulated in having you as a citizen and I pray that God may continue to bless you.

"HARRY L. HAINES."

The following telegram was received from William Hatch Wharff, Berkeley, Cal., the 95-year-old president of the Abraham Lincoln Fellowship:

"Mrs. M. O. Smith:

"Greetings, Mother Smith. All honor to our Abraham Lincoln Fellowship Shrine.

"WILLIAM HATCH WHARFF."

**She Knew Lincoln**



Mrs. M. O. Smith, affectionately known as "Mother" Smith and "Aunty" Smith, whose home at 205 York street, Hanover, yesterday became the national shrine of the Abraham Lincoln Fellowship, an organization formed to perpetuate the memory of Lincoln, and composed of persons who met, knew, saw or heard Lincoln, and of which Mrs. Smith is honorary vice-president. Mrs. Smith is a 15-year-old choir singer sat on the platform with President Lincoln when he delivered his famous Gettysburg address, and was afterward kissed by the president. Yesterday was her 83rd birthday anniversary.

# HANOVER WOMAN SHARES HONORS WITH PRESIDENT

He Grasps Hand Of Mrs. M. O.  
Smith And Poses For Photo-  
graphs Following Address  
At Gettysburg

## SENDS HANDKERCHIEFS TO FIRST LADY OF LAND

Chief Executive Graciously Accepts  
Gift For Mrs. Hoover — Mrs.  
Smith Was On Stand When  
Lincoln Spoke

A Hanover woman yesterday shared honors at the Gettysburg Memorial Day celebration with the President of the United States, Mrs. M. O. Smith, venerated resident of our town, who sat on the platform where Lincoln made his famous dedicatory address in 1863 as a member of the choir which sang on that occasion, yesterday occupied a place of honor on the rostrum from which President Hoover spoke and her name was flashed from one end of the country to the other by the radio announcers who described the memorable scene for the great invisible audience.

Following the address Mrs. Smith was presented to Mr. Hoover. He took her hand courteously in his own, a kindly smile lighted his face with that odd tremble of the lips which distinguishes his smile and he said gallantly: "I am very happy to see you. I am happy to meet you. You must feel proud to have shaken hands with Lincoln."

### Sends Gift To Mrs. Hoover

Mrs. Smith had with her a small parcel tied with a ribbon in the national colors. It contained two hand-worked handkerchiefs which she desired to give to Mrs. Hoover who was unable to be present on account of just recovering from a recent illness. She felt a little embarrassed in asking the President to bother with the gift but explaining the situation and inquiring if he would accept it for Mrs. Hoover, he quickly and graciously replied, "I most certainly shall be very glad to do so and I thank you for it." He then turned the parcel over to his secretary, George Akerson, for safe-keeping.

After greeting personally all of the G. A. R. veterans on the stand, the President descended the steps from the rostrum to the path leading to the waiting automobile. At the request of press and news reel photographers, Mrs. Smith had been

asked to wait for Mr. Hoover at the foot of the steps, and the President again took her hand and they posed there while a dozen cameras recorded the scene. Both the President and Mrs. Smith smiled as the cameras clicked. It seemed a happy occasion for both. It certainly was for Mrs. Smith. She told an Evening Sun representative a few moments later, after the President had said good-bye and passed on to his carriage, that it was one of the happiest moments of her life.

### On Stand With Lincoln

Mrs. Smith, widow of the late Hanover editor and civil war veteran, was born in Gettysburg 82 years ago, Louisa, the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. F. E. Vandersloot. Her father was a Reformed pastor. She was fifteen years of age when as a member of the choir of Christ Lutheran church, known as the College church, she had been selected as one of the sopranos of the special group of singers who sat on the platform from which Lincoln spoke. She was introduced to the war president and he shook hands with the little choir girl. At a reception held for Lincoln in the evening she was also present and recalls having kissed the President.

At the time of the battle, young as she was, she helped care for the wounded. She has been a resident of Hanover for the last fifty-six years. Her husband had been instrumental in the organization of Major Jenkins Post No 99, Grand Army of the Republic, which had at one time a membership of about 200 veterans, of whom but two remain, Jacob Shultz and Adam McKinney. Mrs. Smith is an honorary member of the post.

# MRS. M. O. SMITH HONORED GUEST AT MEMORIAL SERVICES

Poses For Photographers  
With President Herbert  
Hoover

## FINDS EXECUTIVE ATTRACTIVE MAN

Was On Choir When  
Abraham Lincoln Spoke

Mrs. M. O. Smith, 205 York Street, a well-known Hanoverian, was an honored guest at the Memorial day ceremonies at the National cemetery at Gettysburg yesterday afternoon when President Hoover delivered his Memorial day address. She occupied a special seat on the platform with Governor Fisher's party, and was among the few who shook hands with the President. Mrs. Smith also was photographed with President Hoover following his address.

Mrs. Smith, who is 82 years of age, sat on the platform at the same cemetery when Lincoln delivered his immortal "Gettysburg address" and two years ago was present on the platform when President Calvin Coolidge spoke at the memorial services. Mrs. Smith was 15 years of age when President Lincoln spoke at Gettysburg and was on the same platform with him as a member of the special choir. She was introduced to him and they shook hands. A reception was held for Lincoln after the ceremonies in the evening and at this function Mrs. Smith, then a young girl, kissed the president.

She was a member of the choir of Christ Lutheran church at Gettysburg, commonly known as College church, during the Civil war period. She sang soprano and was selected as a member of the special choir.

Mrs. Smith was born, reared and lived in Gettysburg during the Civil war. She was a daughter of Dr. and Mrs. F. E. Vandersloot. The father was a Reformed minister, later became a dentist because of ill-health, and upon his recovery again became a minister.

She helped care for wounded soldiers in her father's home during the battle of Gettysburg. Two doors from the residence was the

continued from page one  
court house where many injured men were cared for. Much of her time was spent attending the wounded and carrying gruel to them from her home.

For the past 56 years, Mrs. Smith has been a resident of Hanover, living at 205 York street. She is well-known and despite her advanced age is active in many branches contributing to social betterment. She is a great favorite of young people. Her memory is excellent, dates and their significance having a fixed place in her mind.

Opposition to modern-day methods does not characterize her. She loves to play bridge, she said, and if she is alone she will turn on the radio, and play solitaire for diversion. She does not devote her time to this amusement, but when she plays she enjoys it. She does a great amount of reading and is interested in the affairs of the nation.

Her late husband, Malcolm O. Smith, was a noted publisher, historian, and veteran of the Civil War. It was under his direction that Major Jenkins post No. 99, Grand Army of the Republic, the local post, was organized with a membership of nearly 200 soldiers.

Today only two of the original 200 remain. They are Jacob Shultz, and Adam McKinney. Mrs. Smith, wife of the founder and for many years the commander of the post, was recently made honorary member and is known as the "mother of the post."

In the year of 1900 a picture of the post was taken; only 85 of the 200 members remained. In 1915 another picture was photographed and only forty countenances appeared. Today, 1930, only two of the original members remain. However, there are several other veterans of the G. A. R. but they were not members of the local post, according to Mrs. Smith.

Mrs. Smith remembers Lincoln's appearance as though it was but yesterday she saw him. "One, seeing his face, could never forget him," said Mrs. Smith.

Commenting on yesterday's eventful occasion Mrs. Smith said: "President Hoover resembles Abraham Lincoln only in the mildness of his speech, a trait common to both presidents, which is characterized by the absence of flourishes, indicating that he is a plain, solid, an substantial man, the kind most needed in public offices".

"President Hoover is an attractive man because he has a solid countenance. Governor Fisher is a substantial man. I like to see men without "furbelows'," continued Mrs. Smith in an interview.

"I am very happy to see you. You must feel proud to have shook hands with Lincoln," said President Hoover to Mrs. Smith after he was formally introduced to the interesting lady.

Mrs. Smith carried a small package tied in ribbons of the national colors. In it she had wrapped two handmade handkerchiefs which she intended to send to Mrs. Hoover. She states that she was somewhat timid about presenting them to the president as they might prove cumbersome to him.

Summoning courage she explained the contents to the president who graciously accepted the gift and said that he would see that they were delivered to his wife. Mr. Hoover himself took the package from Mrs. Smith's hand.

"The president was one of the last to leave the platform," said Mrs. Smith. The cameramen asked me to wait on the steps to be photographed. I waited by when Mr. Hoover was alighting from the platform I felt as though I were in the way and apologized to him, explaining that the cameramen had requested me to remain."

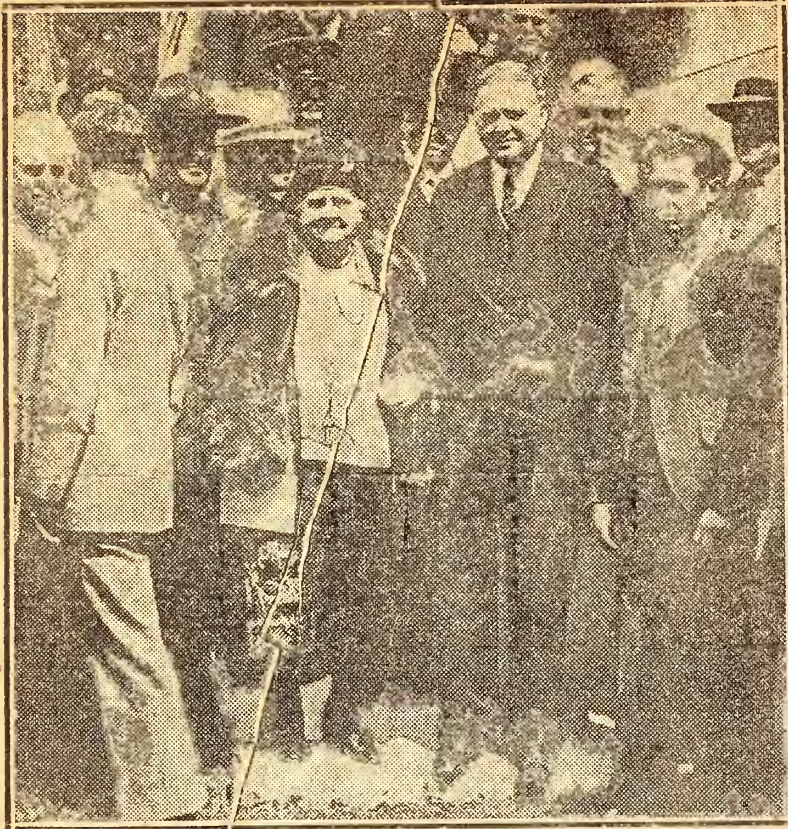
Mrs. Smith evidently was not intruding, for the president took her hand, and this way posed for the cameraman of the press and of the newsreel.





She Heard President Lincoln Make His Famous Gettysburg Address on November 19, 1863. Mrs. M. O. Smith, eighty-seven, of Hanover, Pa., is shown as she met President Hoover on Friday at the Gettysburg Battlefield, where the President delivered a Memorial Day address. Governor John S. Fisher, wearing a silk hat, is in the centre of the group and at right of President Hoover is Guillermo Ortiz Rubio, son of Mexico's president, who is a student at the Gettysburg Academy.

*Handwritten note:* The woman in the center is Mrs. M. O. Smith.



Ledger-P. & A.

**PRESIDENT HOOVER AT GETTYSBURG!** President Herbert Hoover is shown at Gettysburg on Memorial Day with Mrs. W. C. Smith, of Hanover, Pa., who heard Lincoln deliver Gettysburg address, and, Senor Rubio, son of the President of Mexico

Smith, Mrs. M. O.

Gettysburg, Address

Hanover, Pa.

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

CARLISLE AND CHESTNUT STS.  
HANOVER, PA.

JOHN S. TOME, PASTOR

September 12, 1932

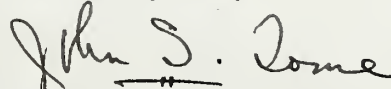
Hotel Keenan  
Fort Wayne,  
Indiana

Dear Sirs:

Mrs. M. O. Smith, the last surviving person of those who appeared on the program with Abraham Lincoln when he gave his memorable Gettysburg Address, will arrive at Fort Wayne, Indiana, Friday morning, September 16 at 6:05 A.M. to bring greetings at the unveiling of the bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln to be held at 11:00 A.M. She wishes to stop at your hotel for the several hours prior to the Dedicatory Service. After the unveiling she is going to attend the 66th Convention of the G.A.R. at Springfield, Illinois.

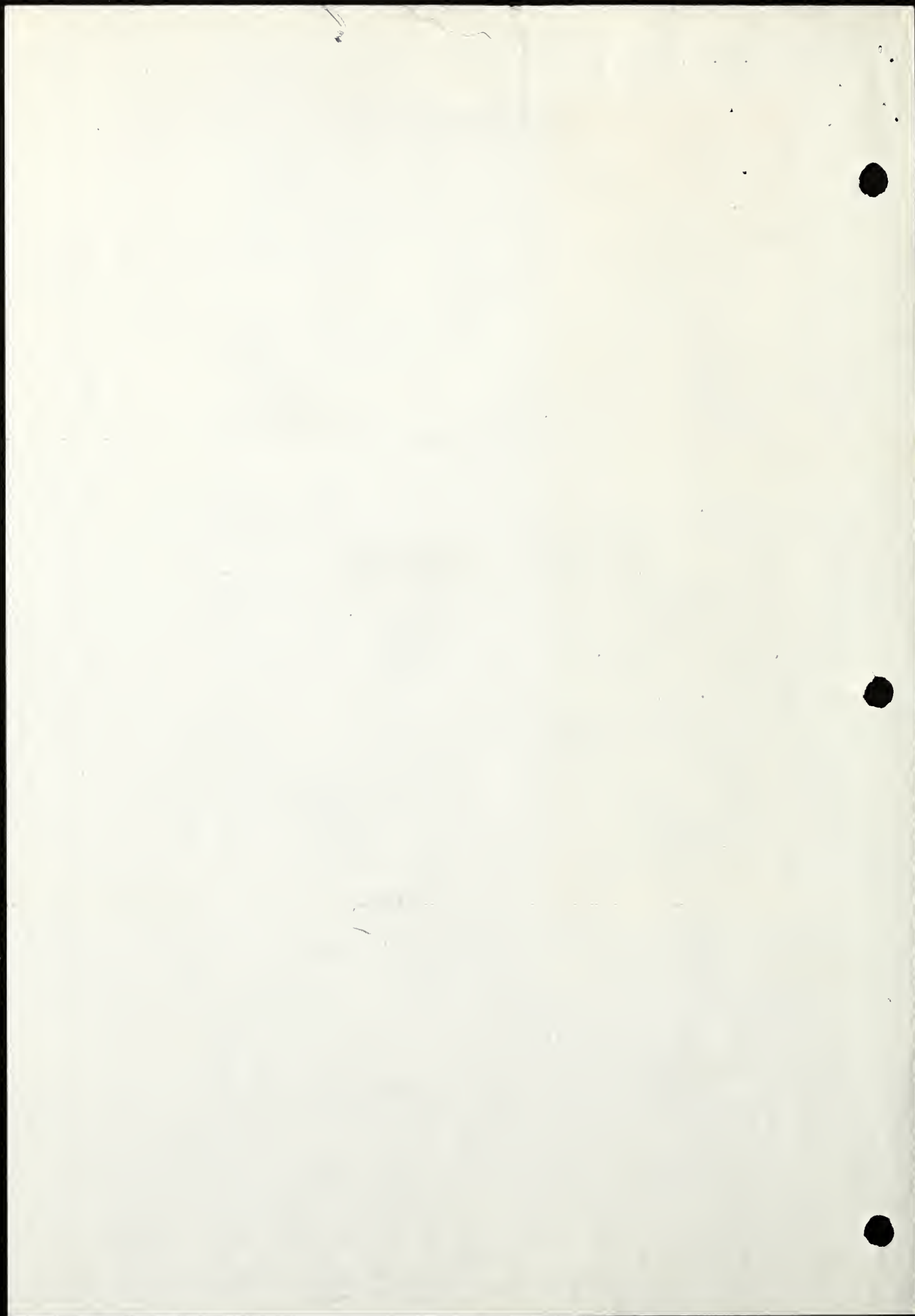
Will you please see that she is given every courtesy and that she is cared for at the train? She has appeared on the Memorial Day programs at Gettysburg with Ex-President Coolidge, President Hoover and Vice President Curtis. She is nationally known and I am sure that you will consider her a guest of honor at your hotel. May I hear from you so that I will be certain that she will be well cared for?

Sincerely yours,



John S. Tome

JST:CSW



Smith, Mrs. M. O.

Hanover, Pa.

SMITH

September 13, 1932.

Mr. John B. Tomc,  
St. Mark's Lutheran Church,  
Carlisle and Chestnut Sts.,  
Hanover, Pa.

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of your letter of September 12th,  
regarding the coming of Mrs. M.O. Smith.

We wish to assure you that we will extend every  
courtesy possible to Mrs. Smith and I,  
personally, will see that she is  
cared for at the train.

In room  
426 at the ~~726~~  
Keenan.

Very truly yours,

HOTEL KEENAN,

Manager.

d.

Handwritten notes or signatures in the bottom right corner, including the word "received" and a signature.

Smith, W.H.  
1418 Perry Place N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Washington, D. C.

Dec. 16. 1931.

H. K. Terry,

Bustleton, Pa.

Dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 12th., asking me to write you my recollections of Mr. Lincoln. I am preparing a newspaper article, giving an account of my acquaintance with Mr. Lincoln, which will be published in two or more papers about the 12th of February next. It would not be fair to the newspapers for me to write these things personally to any one else. I will try and keep your address and will take pleasure in sending you a clipping when the article is printed. I am very old and will start on my 93d, year tomorrow. I may forget, and if after the 12th of February you will remind me of my promise I will send you a clipping.

Very Truly Yours,

W. H. Smith.





Smith, W.H.  
1418 Perry Place, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Washington, D.C.

Feb. 18, 1932.

Mr. H. K. Terry,  
Philadelphia. Pa.

Dear Sir:- My personal recollections of Mr. Lincoln were printed in the New York Herald Tribune pf Feb. 7th. I do not have a copy that I can send you, but no doubt you can obtain one by writing to the Herald Tribune .

Very truly,

W. H. Smith.



Snowden, George R.

Philadelphia, Pa.

11th April 1930

GEN. GEORGE R. SNOWDEN  
1118 PINE STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.

Mr. Howard W. Terry,  
Barrister, Philadelphia  
My dear Sir -

In reply to your interesting  
note I have to say that I was  
Capt of troops in 1822 & I  
was in the army with Mr. Cooper.  
I saw Daniel was near

Abraham Lincoln several  
times but had no personal  
intercourse with him. I thank you

Yours very truly,  
George R. Snowden.  
Please and wishes



# GEN. SNOWDEN NEAR NINETY, TO RETIRE

Captain in Civil War Has Been  
Real Estate Assessor  
31 Years

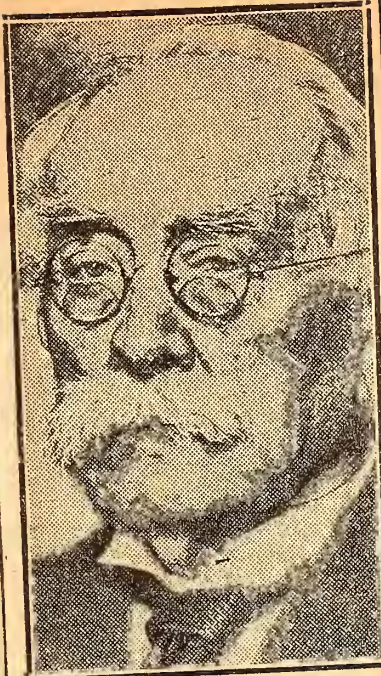
## HEADED NATIONAL GUARD

City Hall is about to lose one of its most lovable and distinguished characters.

Major General George R. Snowden, Real Estate Assessor whom everybody calls "General," and who has been counsellor for hundreds of younger men during his thirty-one years as an Assessor, will retire on April 25. He lives at 1118 Pine st.

He has declined reappointment because of advancing age. Not that he isn't active and alert enough still. He is, indeed, decidedly so, but—well why should anybody who has commanded the military forces of his State, and who is in his ninetieth year, even have to explain why he wishes to retire?

General Snowden had retired as a Major General before the Spanish-American War ended. He served his State as the highest ranking National Guard officer in the days when officers received no pay. He served his country in the Civil War, enlisting as a private at twenty-one, and was discharged a captain. He was admit-



MAJ. GEN. GEORGE R. SNOWDEN

ted to the bar before most lawyers of today were born—in 1862.  
Born in Franklin, Venango county, Pa., February 12, 1841, General Snow-

den was educated by private tutors.

A student of Latin and Greek from young manhood, General Snowden mastered French, Spanish, Italian and German after he was forty.

General Snowden came to Philadelphia in 1874, after he had served as U. S. Commissioner and Mayor of Franklin. He became a Colonel in the National Guard in 1877 and commanded the old Third Regiment during the Pittsburgh riots. Later, as Major General, he commanded the State forces during the Homestead riots in 1892.

During these years which saw General Snowden rise in military life, he was also active politically. In 1881 he was elected a Select Councilman from the 7th Ward, as a Democrat. He has always been a Democrat, and is the last surviving member of the Councilmanic body which met in Independence Hall.

General Snowden, as the head of the State militia offices, was the first tenant of the present City Hall. The military offices were on the second floor, and for some time the office

## THE EVENING BULLETIN—PHILADELPHIA

General Snowden occupied was the only one tenanted.

Looking back now, in the sunset of his life, General Snowden doesn't see much change in human beings.

For the young people of today he had this to say: "There are as good morally as they ever were. At least that is my observation. But there is more drinking. It was rare for a young man to carry a flask in my youth, and girls never drank."



## 'Gloomy' City Hall Holds No Lure For Its First Tenant, Quitting Today

**Major General Snowden, 89, Retiring Real Estate  
Assessor, Believes It Should Be Torn Down  
to Make Way for Progress**

No sentimental attachments bind Major General George R. Snowden to City Hall. In spite of the fact that he was the first tenant to occupy the building, he severs his connections with it today, retiring without regret after thirty-one years of service as real estate assessor.

He is in perfect accord with those who believe that the "dreary old place" should be torn down to make way for progress. It never was a model of architectural beauty, he declared, and it stands in the way of both commercial and artistic development.

Back in 1879, before the building was completed, General Snowden, as head of the State militia forces, moved into rooms on the second floor.

### **Aged, But Lives for Present**

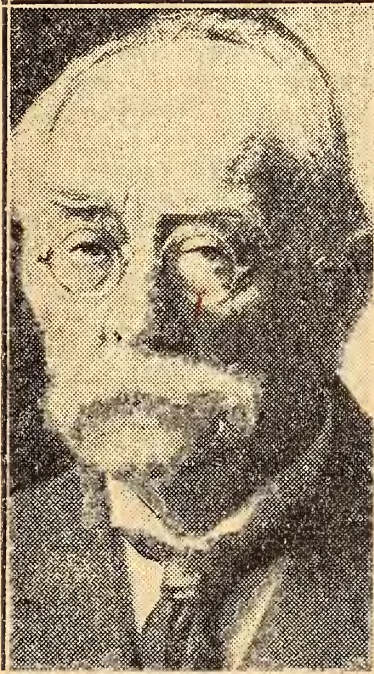
But memories are not to be cherished at the expense of advancement, he believes. Although he has nearly 90 years behind him, the alert old general still lives for the present.

Nevertheless, General Snowden recalled the days when he and his assistants had the whole massive building to themselves.

"It was pretty gloomy there," he said. "It seemed like a big place for such a few men, and we were glad when finally we got some neighbors. It seems to me that it was a couple of years before any one moved in. They hadn't quite finished when we took offices there, and every one else waited. After that the building began to fill up, and it didn't seem so dreary. But there never was much light in the place."

For the last year, General Snowden, with the other assessors, has been occupying offices in the City Hall Annex.

General Snowden was born in



Ledger Photo

### **MAJOR GENERAL SNOWDEN**

Franklin, Venango County, Pa., February 12, 1844, and was educated by private tutors. Interested in early youth in the law, military life and politics, he achieved success in all three.

He came to Philadelphia in 1874, after he had served as United States Commissioner and Mayor of Franklin. He enlisted in the Civil War as a private at the age of 21 and was discharged a captain. He had retired as a major general before the Spanish-American War ended.





# Snyder Institute

Box 304

South Sioux City, Nebraska

May 3,

1957

Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry  
Care Lincoln National Life Foundation  
Ft. Wayne, Indiana

Dear Sir:

Assuming that you welcome any light on the character of Lincoln, I shall add two items that may be of interest:

Dr. Edward Duffield Neill was the third private secretary of President Lincoln. Later he organized Macalester College, and taught history there. As a student of the college I learned much about the man Lincoln, mostly in private conversations with Dr. Neill. On one occasion I asked Dr. Neill; "Did you consider Mr. Lincoln to be a Christian?" He drew himself to his greatest height, and answered emphatically, "He was the most Christ-like man I ever knew!"

While I was teaching mathematics at Gordon Military Institute in Georgia, Prof. Neal taught Latin in the same school. He had been a Confederate soldier under General Gordon. One day I asked him who, in his opinion, was the greatest American. He give the answer that I anticipated, "Gen. Lee." When I asked him who was the second greatest American, he replied, "Abraham Lincoln." Then he added, "His assassination was a terrible calamity to the people of the South."

I was at one time a citizen of your state, having taught psychology and education at Valparaiso University. When I have the opportunity, I hope to visit your Lincoln Museum, as I am an admirer of Lincoln, and treasure anything I can learn about him.

Hoping my contribution will be acceptable, I am

Sincerely

*W.M. Snyder*

W.M. Snyder



May 6, 1957

Dr. W.M. Snyder  
Snyder Institute  
Box 304  
South Sioux City, Nebraska

Dear Dr. Snyder:

I was delighted to have your letter of May 3 giving me the two items (Neill & Neal) concerning Abraham Lincoln. Your letter will find a place in our files.

We will be pleased to have you visit our Museum-Library the next time you are in Indiana.

Yours sincerely,

RCM:ss

R. Gerald McMurtry

Very truly yours,  
[Signature]

General [Name]

EARL T. CHAMBERLIN  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
UNIONTOWN, PA.

June 17, 1931.

Mr. Howard K. Terry,  
9528 Wisteria street,  
Bustleton,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Terry:-

I must apologize to you for not writing you sooner with respect to your letter of April 16, 1931, addressed to the Editor of the New York Times, and by them referred to me.

I am enclosing a sheet from the New York Times of Sunday February 8th, in which appeared my article on the four men who bore Lincoln from Ford's Theater. The source of my information, primarily, - Mr. Jacob Soles - was still living a few months ago, but I am not able to state that he is now alive, though I presume he is, as he was in good health at the time I last spoke to him. The other three men have been dead for some years. I have a lot of information gathered from the various families and from records and histories, etc., in addition to what appears in the Times article, which convinces me that the story is authentic, and just to talk to Mr. Soles is also quite convincing.

Your interest in the matter inspires me to inquire as to whether you are interested in Lincoln generally, because that would strike a most sympathetic chord. I have given a great deal of time and effort in study and travel and research regarding the life of that great American, and have found it all a great inspiration. It was through a friend of mine, who casually mentioned the fact that his father had known a man who helped carry Lincoln from Ford's theater, that I first learned of this story, which so far as I have been able to discover was never before told in complete form, and I followed the initial word with a very thorough investigation, the result of which, in abridged form, is embodied in the Times story.

If I can be of any further assistance to you, it will be a great pleasure for me to do so.

Yours very truly,

Earl T. Chamberlin



# FOUR MEN WHO BORE LINCOLN FROM FORD'S THEATRE NAMED

## One of Them Who Survives Supplies the Missing Link in the Story of the Assassination of the President

By EARL T. CHAMBERLIN.

EVERY detail of the story of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln has been told except one. The identity of the men who carried the body of the stricken President from Ford's Theatre, the scene of the tragedy, to the quiet chamber of death in the Peterson house, on the opposite side of Tenth Street, has never been established. Now, however, after an exhaustive investigation, it is possible to supply the one link which heretofore has been missing from the chain of that evening's events.

On Good Friday night, April 14, 1865, four comrades-in-arms, on leave from Camp Barry at Washington, sat in the dress-circle or first balcony of Ford's Theatre. They were near the State box, which President Lincoln and his party occupied that night. Hearing a pistol shot, then a woman's screams, the four soldiers rushed into the box, where they found their Commander-in-Chief wounded and unconscious.

Army officers who were at the theatre took charge of the situation and ordered the four soldiers, who had so quickly appeared on the scene together, to lift the prostrate man and move him from the theatre. They carried him through the narrow corridor that led into the balcony, thence to the stairway leading to the street. Near the head of the stairs two other soldiers joined them and assisted in bearing the President across Tenth Street to the little brick residence of the Peterson family, where they laid him in the bed in which he died the next morning. Those four young soldiers, having done their simple duty, disappeared from the scene and hurried back to camp; their identity was lost, and it was only through a chance acquaintance who learned of my interest in Lincoln that I came upon the facts.

One of the soldiers who helped to carry the body of Lincoln from the theatre is still living. His name is

Jacob J. Soles and he lives in North Versailles Township, Allegheny County, Pa., where he was born July 17, 1845. Three of his nine children are still living and he makes his home with one of them, Mrs. Laura Lefler. He was a coal digger all his life until he got too old to do such work. Several years ago he lost an eye in a mine accident. He is not the emotional or imaginative type and could not have made up the simple, straightforward story he told in several conversations. His statement and my subsequent investigations in the War Department and elsewhere in Washington and in other places form the foundation for the following narrative.

### Their War Records.

During the last two years of the Civil War Soles was a member of Thompson's Battery C, Independent Pennsylvania Light Artillery, which from the Fall of 1864 until the following June was stationed at Camp Barry, where it had been sent as a part of the defenses in and about Washington. The battery had been in many of the fiercest battles of the war, including Antietam, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, and had been shot to pieces. When Grant reorganized the Union forces in the Spring of 1864 many replacements were made to bring the battery up to its normal strength. At that time Soles and three of his friends—Jabes Griffiths, John Corey and William Sample—became members of the battery. These men, from Allegheny County, Pa., had enlisted at Pittsburgh in February, 1864, and were later assigned to Battery C for permanent service.

The individual records of the four soldiers, examined at the War Department by courtesy of L. A. Rosafy of the Adjutant General's office, show that they were all present with their company every day from March until the last of June, 1865, when they were honorably discharged.

On the night of April 14 they ob-

tained leave of absence to attend the theatre. What occurred there, so far as they were concerned, may be told in the language of Mr. Soles, as he related it to me:

Bill Sample, Jabe Griffiths and John Corey and myself, all of Company C, Independent Artillery, went to Ford's Theatre at about 7:30 or 8 o'clock. Lincoln was shot some time later—I can't give the hour accurately; I know the play had gone on for some time after we came in.

We four were up in the balcony; we were on the same side of the balcony that Mr. Lincoln's box was on; we were back in toward the back of the theatre, about fifteen feet from the box where he was shot.

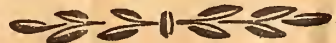
We didn't know at first when we heard the pistol going off that it was in there, but they cried for help and we heard this woman crying and we four broke forward and rushed to the box, and we helped him down to the building where he was placed, in a little brick building standing across the street from Ford's Theatre.

We four fellows carried him to the stairway in the theatre, then two others fell in and helped carry him. As we carried him out of the theatre, he was carried out flat, with his feet foremost; I was down at his feet with one of the fellows, and two men at his head, and the middle of him was sagging until the two others took him in the middle and we six carried him out.

We carried Lincoln out of the theatre and we had him out on the street about five minutes until we found a place to put him, and then they hollered out that is where he would be put. A young man directed us to the house, a young man that was not in soldier's clothes; he told us to take him to the brick house. We put him in a room on the first floor; we went back through a long hallway to about the middle of the building; there was a bed in that room and we laid him on the bed.

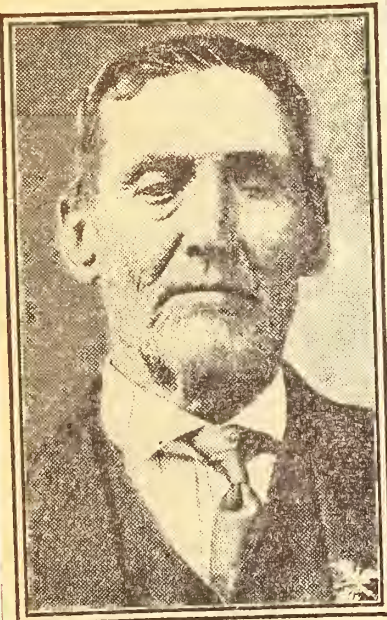
When we took him into the room we had to get out. The guard put them all out. They wouldn't let anybody in without it was a doctor or something. The street was jammed. You had to push a road through wherever you wanted to get to. We waited around until the doctors came out and said it was fatal and then we pulled for camp.

The "Record of Events" of Thomp-



(over)

JACOB J. SOLES



One of Four Soldiers Who Aided  
Lincoln After He Was Shot.

son's Battery C, Independent Pennsylvania Light Artillery, and the individual records of the four men, as found in the files of the Adjutant General's office, verify those portions of Soles's story dealing with their military service.

The records in the Pension Bureau confirm the details he related regarding the death of the three other men and their surviving families. An examination of the pension record disclosed the following facts: Jabe Griffiths died at McKeesport, Pa. Jan. 18, 1898, leaving a widow, Minerva Griffiths, and several children. John Corey was drowned in the Allegheny River near Pittsburgh in April, 1884, leaving a widow, Mary Corey, and several children, the widow having died April 29, 1898. William Sample died in the McKeesport Hospital Feb. 25, 1898, as the result of burns received in a steel mill. He left a widow, Lydia J. Sample, now dead, and several children.

Mrs. Griffiths lives with her daughter, Mrs. Leon Jeffers, 100 Third Street, Beaver, Pa. In a recent interview she related to the reporter her husband's war experiences and said positively that he was one of the soldiers who carried the body of Lincoln to Ford's Theatre.



Tuttle Creek Pa.

July 10 1930

Dear Sir in regards to your letter  
I was Stashed in camp Berry,  
and 4 of us Boys, got a Pass to  
go <sup>to</sup> the theater the name of the Boys  
is Gabe Griffith

John Carrey.

William Sample.

and my self Jacob J Soles.

I was about 20 feet from the Butth  
men Lincoln was <sup>shot.</sup> it was on April 14  
18.65 about 8 O'clock in the evening  
in the Ford Theater after he was  
shot they took him across the  
street to a house ~~where~~ in Senator  
Stewarts Room we 4 Boys was in  
Tompson Battery Co of Second corp  
Indendpendan Light Artillery I inlisted

from my home in turtle creek  
and I am still here yet But  
the rest of the boys are all dead

Yours Truly  
From Mr Jacob J Sales,  
223 Greensburg Pike,  
Turtle Creek Pa.

## HELPED CARRY LINCOLN

Jacob J. Soles, of Turtle Creek, Pa.,  
Was at Ford's Theater.

Jacob J. Soles, 82, veteran of the Civil War, lone survivor of six young soldiers who carried Abraham Lincoln from Ford's Theater to the house in which he died, still enjoys good health and recalls many incidents of that tragic night.

At his home in Turtle Creek, Pa., Comrade Soles said that while his memory was not as keen as it was some years ago, he still recalled his attendance at the theater and the events connected with the shooting of the President.

On April 14, 1865, Soles and John Corey, Jacob Griffiths, and William Sample, all members of the same regiment, obtained a furlough and were given tickets to the performance of "An American Cousin." Their seats were in the balcony a few feet back of the President's box.

A great demonstration followed the initial appearance of Laura Keane, leading woman, Soles says, and the great crowd occupying standing room surged forward. It was during this acclaim, he says, that Wilkes Booth entered the rear of the President's box and fired a pistol within a few feet of Lincoln's head.

The President, who was seated in a rocking chair, fell forward. The assassin sprang from the box and tumbled upon the stage, the spur on his boot becoming entangled with the flags decorating the box.

"For a few seconds following the shot and the escape of Booth the house was silent," says Comrade Soles. "Women in the box screamed and cries of horror came from the audience when the people realized that Mr. Lincoln was the victim. With my three comrades and two other soldiers whose names I have not learned, I ran around the balcony, pushed our way thru the crowd, and made our way to the President's side.

"Within a minute or two some one decided to move him to a place outside the theater, where he could be given medical attention, and we carried him to a house directly across the street.

"After placing him on a cot we remained on guard until relieved by details sent by the provost marshal, who took charge of handling the crowd that surrounded the house. We returned to our company late at night, and at morning mess we received the word of Lincoln's death."

*National Tribune*

*March 27 - 1930*

## Witness to Slaying Of Lincoln Dies at 90

Turtle Creek, Pa., Jan. 10.—(AP)

—Ninety-year-old Jacob J. Soles, reputed to have been one of six men who carried Abraham Lincoln from the Ford Theatre, died yesterday. He never accepted the general theory that the martyred President's assassin, John Wilkes Booth, died in a flame-swept barn while fleeing from troops. Instead, he contended, Booth escaped arrest.



Mrs J. C. Spangler (Amanda Jane  
Carriker) of La Rose, Illinois,  
now aged 81 saw Lincoln  
and Douglas, in Lacon, Illinois  
when a little girl. Read your  
article in Peoria Evening Star Oct. 4. '32

Respectfully

La Rose, Ill.

Mrs Emma De Vault



U Ruskin, Florida, July 26, 1931- H, K, Terry Esq-

Dear Sir & Friend (Friend to Humanity )

I received your Letter in due time But was unable to answer on account of my Eyes (Onely have one the other was scalded out when A Locomotive tipped over while Running on the N. & St. Jo R, R- in 1865. during the civil War,) and cant see very good with the other and have to be carefull Well Now I will tel you of my first sight of Abrham Lincoln It was In St, Charles, Ill. In 1854 he was then Running for Senator and Was Booked To speak there I cant remember at what Date St, Charles was A red hot Democratic Town and there was where Lincoln wanted to tell the People What he Thought of Slavery, He said A House Divided Canot Stand and said the Bibel said so He allso said that No Man could be A Good Christian and Buy and sell Human beings Well the People Missed and said many bad Thing about him But hem made some good Friends, my Father and my Uncle Took his part my Grandfather Was A Radical Democrat And was Insulted at his saying No Christian could Buy & sell human beings and when he and my Father wer Quareling over the speech my Grsndfather said the Bible says the Black Man shal be A Slave all the Days of his Life, Ive Red the Bible A good bit but cant remember anything Like that ( I aint going to Look for it for I wouldnt beleive it in it did say so ) The reason I so well Remember this is because my Father & my Uncle Quareled over the subject so much, my Grandfather said Lincoln was Crsy And didnt kno what he was Talking about, but him or my Father ever Lived to kno what A Great Man Abraham Lincoln was- These U, F, of America Never had such A Man Before nor Since (The People are just begining to Realise this Now )

Well the next time that I saw Lincoln (that I can remember of ) Was At QUINCY Ill- 1858 when him and Douglas was Stumping the Country Together , I can remember them as vividly as tho it was Yesturdy I was driving A Baggege Waggon for The Pinckam & Bradford Buss & Livery Company I went to the Station With the Busses & when the Train arrived ( Very few People wer there to Wellcome the Speakers twasen Fassinable In early Days; they They didnt come ein a special Car them days they didnt have A special Campain fund To draw on ,They just Plain Foks Working for the beternment of Humanity No thought of Pork Barrelor Log rooling or Graft Like they are toDay (here is A coincidence ) When the Train Arived Lincoln came out of the Dore Leading Bro-Steve- And helped him into the Buss for he was to Heavly Loded with Bssase To navigate & they Drove to the Quincy House & got A Room together and Mr Lincoln came Down to the Bar Room and met Old Pink as we all Called him And Enquired where he could get some Buttermilk & mr Pink told him he would send A Boy out to his hiousse & get some, Well soon they had it & mr Lincoln explained what he wanted it for, To Sober up Bro- Steve so he would prepared to speak when the time Came to speak; they wer Bitter Enemy's Politically But dear Friends Persondly - this would be An Impessability to Day

I was A member of the Wide Awakees We had Black Capes with the Word WIDEWA WIDEWAKES ON the back of our capes The Democrats club Had Black Pants & Red Shirts we all carried Torches (the Name of the Democrat Club was the Hicory Club, s ) Early in the Evening we all Marched around through the Streets with A Large Barrer printed in Large Letters LINCOLN and Dugless are here come & hear them speak. we didnt have Daily Papers in small Towns in these Days ; they wer Weaklies & not very well patronised Then Well I was Tired & didnt go to heasr them that Night-But it had been Arranged for the speakers to go to Versails up thr Road on the Wabash R, R About 35 miles I think us Boys All got onto Flat cars And the Speakers And their friends had Coaches; Well we got up there about 11 a.m.-And We wer all Hungry (that was hardly A Name for it ) We stoped at A Large Grove of Oaks A beautifull Place there wer Tables under the Treese Fille With more Things than the Multitude c ould Eat there was various young animals Barbecued I dont kno how many also Roast Pigs Turkeys Chickens Geece without number Frute & Vegetables I dont remember of Cake or Pye Just Good Old Fashioned Feede, That stuck to our Ribs Ha, Ha- Well after Dinner we took A Nap under the





Well after Dinner we All ( No. ) Tuck A Nap under the Treese  
( we wer all tired )And about 2 p,m-The Speakers & their Friends  
CCame down from Vrrsails ;About 2miles farther up the road  
Then we all went over to meet them with the Music & our Torches to  
Escort them to the Speakers Stand- and About 4 ,p,m- they went back  
To Versails and then we wer at Liberty again to Play & do sas we wished  
But as I Caried the Banner I was Tired and glad to rest It was Old  
Pink,s Banner and heavy and I was Causioned to take good care of It  
( Old Pink was my Boss ) I was Working for him

Well at about 3 p,m- they returned again And we had our Torches all  
Lit & made A grand Display of our Drilling & Hammerd the Drums Loud  
We had all had Supper & was feeling grand on account of my carrying  
the Flag I was stationed cloce to the Stand and was paying cloce  
atension what was being said

They got off many Jokes that I dont remember But A couple I do remember  
Dougless was the one that allways started the Jokes But Lincoln was  
Witty and could most allways get the best of Bro- Steve Dugless  
Acused Lincoln of Keeping A Grocery Store and Selling Whiskey Well  
There was nuthing unusual about that for one could Buy Whiskey In  
any Grocery at that time And in the most of the Hotiells & Bording  
Houses in those Days (good C,P- Whiskey not Old Rotten Shineof toDay)  
well Bro Abe just Smiled Each Had half an Hour to Speak & when Lincoln  
got up to speak he said ( at theright time ) Yes I concede to the  
Charge But While I was behind the Bar Bro- Steve was the Best custiner

I had in fron; A Prolenged Fear Folloed( Evry Body knew Duglass Liked  
His Toddy) And Couldnt make A good Speach Woithout A good Toddy

After A While Duglessmade anotherbreak at Lincoln by saying he Knew  
of A New York Republica (Abolishonist ) That stole A half of A Hog  
at Kog killing time from A good Old Honest Democrat That he knew  
Well at the Proper time Lincoln Conseeded that was True-But I kno  
It wasent A Democrat because if it was he would have Stolen the hole Hog  
Well another Grand Roar ,Lincoln was Wonderfully Witty & could think  
Quick & had an answer For ready at all times

Lincoln Was A Fine Speaker & superted no Mustach was allways shaved  
around the Mouth he had A Femenine Voice and Shot his Words out  
In A shrilVoice & could be herd A Block away ; Dugless Was allso A  
Fine Speaker But not so distinct he wore A heavy Mustach which Retarded  
and broke up his words;Dugless Spoke A good Lik Wm,J.Brian & allso  
Looked something Like him,Dugless was Rather G ood Looking which  
helped to make him Popular -Not so with Honest Abe he was Ugly as  
A mud Fence But The kindly Expression in his Eyes the Smiles the  
kind Words he had for every body Made him A most Leviable SOUL

I was Running A Locomotive on the Hannibal & St,Jo ,R,R When He  
was Shot I didnt here of it til the next morning when I got to  
Macen City adout 9 p,m-the next morningthe Place was in an uproar  
Evry bodyLooking for suthern sympathisers But they all kept mum  
It seemed to me as tho one of my Relitives had been Shot & killed  
Lincoln had made such an empression onme when A Boy

Hoping this will meet with your desire & Aproval Im Sincerly Yours  
David, F, Spencer

Not D,F, Spencer its B-



Spicer, Virginia Fields

Philadelphia Pa

June 24. 1931

Mr W. Terry.

Dear Sir.

Received your beautiful letter today, and sincerely thank you for congratulations on my 84<sup>th</sup> birthday. Will enclose some clipping for you to read - and wish them returned.)

I am happy to be living in God's beautiful world at this age in good health. I never look on the dark side of life - only the bright side with no <sup>great</sup> nerve to bother me or worry.



I see you are a publisher perhaps  
you knew <sup>the</sup> late Senator Thomas C. Cooper  
of Indiana a Cousin of mine, as many  
of my people over Newspaper men.  
40 years ago I wrote for the Evening  
Bulletin and having a large family  
to raise I dropped out - My talent  
was to be an Author writing books  
I gave it all up for my family. I am  
of noble birth but marrying a poor  
soldier was disinherited by my people  
My life has been full of romance  
even up to this date. I remember  
our late President, the late Abraham Lincoln  
as a child he seemed fond of me  
and my father the late Dr. Wm. Fields.  
He thought he was a wonderful man,  
being an Inventor Doctor's Eye Specialty  
as I look back I can still see him  
treating the blind and bringing them  
to see again - I was so fond of him,  
also being a Physicist. I inherit  
some from him - Having predicted  
three things during my life. The  
Johnstown Flood, the Worlds War, Saving

it would end quicly which it  
did and also the Warrior  
people flying all over the world  
which they are. Although I was  
laughed at for saying so.

From the slip you see what  
General De La has been in his  
life of 68 years. A man to some  
young boys President of Boys  
Brigade's Captain Days of the Civil  
war. his books were published  
every year while he lived.

He was loved and honored by  
thousands of boys. of Penn  
a word of encouragement is always  
welcomed to me. I will let my many  
children see your letter.

Respectfully Yours Virginia Sparrow

## MRS. SPICER IS 84

### Four Generations Present at Reception to Widow of Veteran

Mrs. Virginia Fields Spicer is celebrating her eighty-fourth birthday with a quiet reception to four generations of her family at her home, 5523 Regent st.

Mrs. Spicer, the widow of Major General Henry F. Spicer, Civil War veteran, lives alone with only a small kitten for companionship because "the children wouldn't let me do anything and were always warning me to go easy."

She went to housekeeping four years ago, after living for some time with different members of her family following the death of her husband. "I wanted to do housework and have things my own way," she said. "I do all my own work, have never been ill and don't intend to settle down to be waited on after so many years. Most of my family lived to be 100, and that is what I'm aiming for."

Mrs. Spicer is the mother of eight children, has fifteen grandchildren, sixteen great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren. She expects the greater part of her family to call upon her today.

6/7/31





" I Saw Lincoln "

Full Name J. A. Sprenkel

Present Address New Cumberland, Camb. Co. Pa.

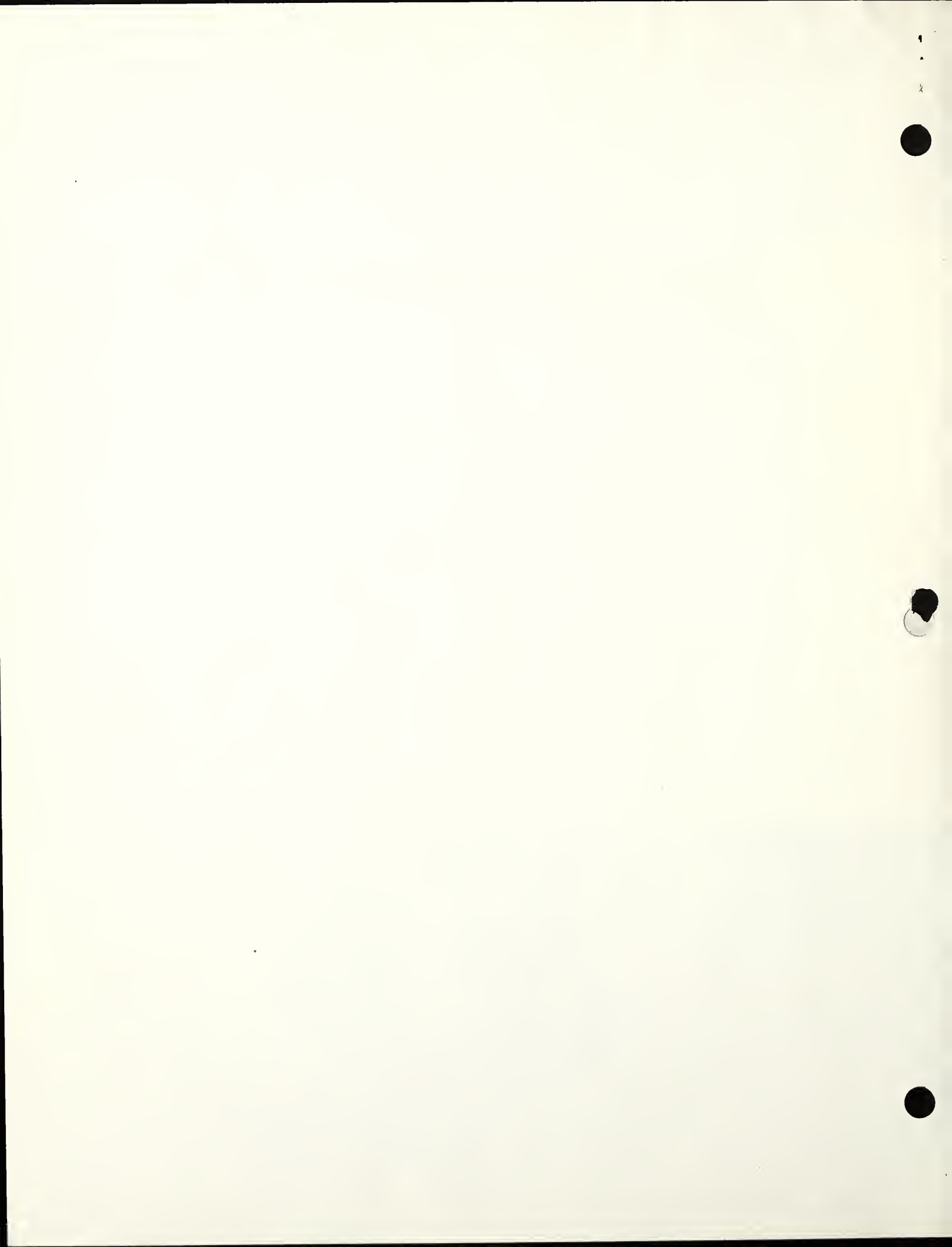
Date of Birth Year 1847 Month May Day 9.

Place of Birth City of York, Pa.

Where You Saw Lincoln Gettysburg Pa.

When You Saw Lincoln November 19, 1863.

Remarks:- See enclosed circulars, etc. -



**Institute Season of 1902-1903.**

**J. A. SPRENKEL,**

**Instructor and Musical Director.**



For Terms and Dates, Address

R. L. MYERS & CO., - - - - Harrisburg, Penna.

Personal Address,

J. A. SPRENKEL, - - - New Cumberland, Penna.

# TO SUPERINTENDENTS AND INSTITUTE MANAGERS.

In presenting Mr. J. A. Sprenkel for institute work, we feel that we are responding to a very general demand for better and more practical work in music at our teachers' institutes.

Mr. Sprenkel is a careful student and is acquainted with the leading and best thought upon this line of work; he is a born teacher and has had extensive experience as principal of schools and supervisor of vocal music.

These qualifications make him a MASTER in his profession.

There seems to be no limit to his ability for work. To deliver two lectures daily: to lead the singing as but few can do it, is an ordinary week's work for this vigorous, earnest, practical and progressive educator.

The character of his work can be ascertained from the testimonials that follow.

Very respectfully,

R. L. MYERS & CO.

## Personal and Press Comments.

DR. NATHAN C. SCHAEFFER, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Harrisburg, Pa.

It has been my pleasure at different institutes to listen to the talks of Prof. J. A. Sprenkel, of New Cumberland, Penna., and to hear him conduct the exercises in singing. He possesses rare powers for holding the attention of an audience and superior abilities as a leader of the singing in large gatherings.

DR. ARNOLD TOMPKINS, Chicago University.

Prof. J. A. Sprenkel is not only an enthusiastic and efficient teacher of music, but one whose bearing and character exert a wholesome influence on those about him. He is the author of music books of high merit.

PROF. J. M. BERKEY, City Sup't. of Schools, Johnstown, Pa.

I have on several occasions heard Prof. J. A. Sprenkel as musical director at teacher's county institutes, and I can cheerfully recommend him as an enthusiastic leader, a competent instructor, a fine singer, and withal a thorough gentleman. He is in my judgment one of the best men in his line in Pennsylvania to-day.

DR. ELI F. BROWN, Indianapolis, Indiana.

I have seen Prof. J. A. Sprenkel in his work before teachers' institutes, and wish to bear my testimony to his rare excellence as an instructor and to the unflinching interest and pleasure with which the teachers respond to his inspiring influence.

PROF. E. L. KEMP, Vice Prin., E. Stroudsburg State Normal School.

I have been associated with Mr. J. A. Sprenkel in institute work. He is overflowing with enthusiasm and energy, and arouses both in an institute. He is an excellent singer. With unusual devotion to his work he unites a large measure of originality, and his experience coupled with his happy way of putting his ideas makes him a very helpful and interesting instructor.

JAMES M. COUGHLIN, City Sup't., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

I have been associated with Mr. J. A. Sprenkel in institute work and am pleased to say that he is an excellent musical leader. He puts life and spirit into his work. He does general primary work also, and his good sense, keen wit and vivacious manner especially adapt him to this work. I commend him to the favorable consideration of those who are making up institute programmes.

PROF. SPRENKEL is a favorite in the institute. He is a great success as musical director, and his talks, in addition to the useful instruction imparted are always sparkling and good humored.—*Sentinel*, Lewistown, Pa.

PROF. J. A. SPRENKEL who is to have charge of the singing for the week as well as to instruct in other topics, was introduced to our teachers. It needed but a few moments of singing to convince all that the music is in most competent hands. Gifted by nature with a clear, musical voice, Mr. Sprenkel has cultivated it until the range and power of its tones are very pleasing. After singing, Prof. Sprenkel was given the floor to talk on "Order in the Primary School." His bright and humorous way of putting things charmed his audience from the beginning. The witty sallies of the speaker kept a wave of merriment constantly in motion over the room. It is safe to say that he has scored a hit as instructor here.—*Gazette and Bulletin*, Williamsport, Pa.

PROF. SPRENKEL is a name familiar to every public school teacher in this and many other counties. He is the author of the "Ideal Music Course." His appearance is very striking and at once impresses the audience with his ability.—*American Volunteer*, Carlisle, Pa.

HENRY HOUCK, Deputy Sup't, Public Instruction, Harrisburg, Pa.

Having met Prof. J. A. Sprenkel at many of our teacher's institutes where he served as musical director I am glad to say that he is an excellent musician, an inspiring leader and *always* gives satisfaction.

PROF. SPRENKEL will long be remembered by the teachers and the people of Johnstown. His kindly face, his grace and good humor have made their effect, and his presence on this memorable occasion will be recorded in one of the very brightest pages of local pedagogic history.—*Johnstown Democrat*, Johnstown, Pa.

PROF. J. A. SPRENKEL of New Cumberland, author of *The Ideal Music Course* led the singing of the institute. The large audiences were thoroughly captivated with his sunny face and charming gifts of song.

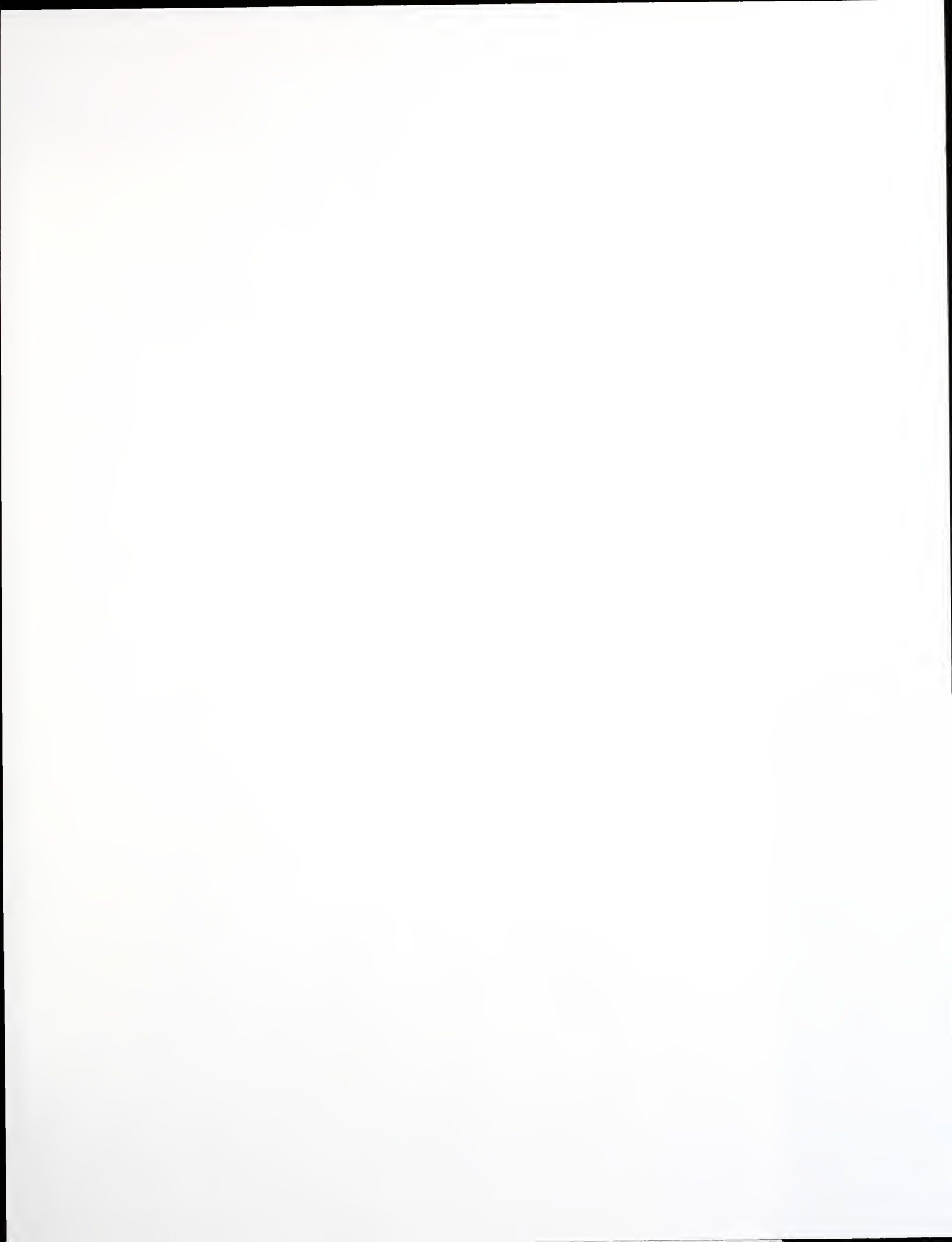
This was Prof. Sprenkel's second year in Franklin County, as a leader and instructor in music and primary methods. He has made many friends among the teachers and will be heartily welcomed next year.—*The People's Register*, Chambersburg, Penna.

R. B. EGGLESTON, Pastor Third Pres. Church, Richmond, Virginia.

The address of Mr. J. A. Sprenkel on *The Boy*, delivered before the Institute held in this city November 1901, was simply superb. Mr. Sprenkel knows boys, and knows people.

What a blessing it would bring not only to teachers and Professors in Colleges and Academies, but also to parents to hear this address.

I shall ever be grateful that I had the privilege of hearing it. Words cannot express its value. Hear it and you will understand its great worth.









J. A. SPRENKEL,

*NEW CUMBERLAND, Cumberland Co., Pa.,*

Lecturer and Conductor ✧

—OF—

✧ Bible Teacher's Institutes.

August 18, 1932.

Gentlemen

By our Dayton paper I have learned that you are seeking men who knew or heard Mr. Lincoln. I submit to you the name of Prof. Sprenkle (his initials I have forgotten) of New Cumberland, Pa. Just across the river from Harrisburg. When a boy of about 16yrs. he heard Mr. Lincoln deliver the Gettysburg address. He was so close to him he could have touched him. Mr. Sprenkle has a very interesting story to tell of that occasion. He is a well preserved old gentleman, scholarly, and would give you a very interesting address. He is a personal friend of mine and one of the most entertaining and delightful gentleman you ever met. You may say that I submitted his name to you. Very truly yours (Rev.) *A. P. Clippinger*  
1602 Grand Ave. Dayton, Ohio.





## To all who are interested in Sunday School Work:

MR. SPRENKEL has served as Field Secretary of the Pennsylvania State Sabbath School Association for upwards of four years.

He is perhaps the best known Sabbath School worker in the State, having been in every county, appearing annually before State, county and district conventions and institutes.

He has endeared himself to the thousands of earnest workers who have been thrilled by his eloquent appeals and greatly benefited by his intensely practical instruction.

A fluent talker, a born teacher, a man of strong personal magnetism, he arouses enthusiasm wherever he goes.

Leading Sabbath School workers, and officers of the State Association bear strongest testimony to his ability as a lecturer and instructor.



## What They Say.

REV. J. B. SHONTZ, Chambersburg, Pa., ex-President of the State Association.

"Our efficient Field Secretary, Prof. J. A. Sprenkel, is doing a work in this State a knowledge of which must surprise any one. There are but few counties in the State that have not felt the power of his influence. His lectures and institute 'talks' are equal to, if not in advance of most of our prominent Sunday School masters.

INTELLIGENCER, Doylestown, Pa.

At the annual Sunday school convention held at Doylestown, Rev. James Morrow, D. D., of Philadelphia, was down on the programme for an address on "The Model Superintendent," but he was not present, and his place was ably filled by the State Secretary of the Association, Prof. J. A. Sprenkel, of New Cumberland, Pa. The gentleman is one of the best talkers on Sunday School work that has ever spoken in Doylestown, and he held the undivided attention of the large audience. He is a pleasant talker and has the happy faculty of keeping his audience in a good humor and not tiring them out. He handles his subject in a masterly manner and talks right to the point. The audience was so pleased with him that he was not allowed to stop his address when he proposed to, but from all parts of the house came the cry, "Go on, go on." If Prof. Sprenkel should ever again be announced to speak in Doylestown, he will be greeted by a large audience.

DR. WM. S. ROSS, Altoona, Pa., Chairman State Executive Committee:

"Prof. J. A. Sprenkel the Field Secretary of this Association has been very efficient in his line of work. He has endeared himself to thousands of Sabbath School officers and teachers all over the State by his enthusiasm and devotion to the work, and by his ability to teach teachers. He is always prompt, ready and eager to do what seems the best. I commend his fidelity and ability.

August 18, 1932.

Gentlemen

By our Dayton paper I have learned that you are seeking men who knew or heard Mr. Lincoln. I submit to you the name of Prof. Sprenkle (his initials I have forgotten) of New Cumberland, Pa. Just across the river from Harrisburg. When a boy of about 16 yrs. he heard Mr. Lincoln deliver the Gettysburg address. He was so close to him he could have touched him. Mr. Sprenkle has a very interesting story to tell of that occasion. He is a well preserved old gentleman, scholarly, and would give you a very interesting address. He is a personal friend of mine and one of the most entertaining and delightful gentleman you ever met. You may say that I submitted his name to you. Very truly yours, *Rev. A. P. Clippinger*  
1602 Grand Ave. Dayton, Ohio.

REV. E. L. KEMP, PH. D., Stroudsburg, Penn'a.

March 7, 1894.

I have been associated with Mr. J. A. Sprenkel in institute work. He is overflowing with enthusiasm and energy, and arouses both in an institute. He is an excellent singer. With unusual devotion to his work he unites a large measure of originality, and his experience coupled with his happy way of putting his ideas makes him a very helpful and interesting instructor.

To

WM. REYNOLDS, Peoria, Illinois, International Field Superintendent.

syh  
yea

"Mr. Sprenkel's capacity for work is phenomenal, he is the only field officer in the great Keystone State and is doing the work of three men."

Sta  
Sta

"THE KANE LEADER," July 19, 1894.

wh  
fitt

"The closing session of the convention was given to State Secretary, J. A. Sprenkel, who is a regular Hotchkiss Gattling Gun. He answers all questions fairly and squarely with much vividness and vim, showing that our beloved Secretary is a live man and well posted on all phases of Sunday School work. He follows his own precept by giving what he gives regularly, a little at a time, and hot. The impressive silence, the ripple of laughter, the glistening tear testified to the power and earnestness of the speaker, and the interest of all present."

Ass  
and

As organizer in an official relation to the State Sabbath School Association, Mr. Sprenkle retires, and will devote his entire time and energy to institute instruction in this as well as in other States.

An argument in favor of the State Association as an organization is the fact that it discovers workers, and affords the best possible opportunities for their development in this line of work.

Mr. Sprenkel is a practical illustration of this fact.

A score of workers such as he are needed in every State in the Union.

August 18, 1932.

Gentlemen

By our Dayton paper I have learned that you are seeking men who knew or heard Mr. Lincoln. I submit to you the name of Prof. Sprenkle (his initials I have forgotten) of New Cumberland, Pa. Just across the river from Harrisburg. When a boy of about 16 yrs. he heard Mr. Lincoln deliver the Gettysburg address. He was so close to him he could have touched him. Mr. Sprenkle has a very interesting story to tell of that occasion. He is a well preserved old gentleman, scholarly, and would give you a very interesting address. He is a personal friend of mine and one of the most entertaining and delightful gentlemen you ever met. You may say that I submitted his name to you. Very truly yours, *Rev. A. T. Clippinger*  
1602 Grand Ave. Dayton, Ohio.



